

In the claims:

1. (cancelled)

2. (previously presented) A program product for selecting an operating channel by a wireless device, the program product comprising a computer readable medium having embodied therein a computer program for storing data, the computer program comprising:

logic operable to scan each of a plurality of radio frequency channels during a scan interval for indication of utilization of ones of the channels;

logic operable to receive messages on the plurality of radio frequency channels during the scan interval;

logic operable to maintain a channel map having an entry for each of the plurality of radio frequency channels, and if one or more messages was received on a channel, the corresponding entry further including a device ID for at least one of the devices that sent a message on the channel;

logic operable to select a channel from the channel map based at least in-part on whether an indication of utilization of the selected channel was detected;

logic operable to transmit messages on the selected channel during a claim interval, at least one message indicative of an intent to utilize the selected channel;

logic operable to monitor the selected channel during the claim interval for a message from another device indicative of an intent to utilize the selected channel; and

logic operable to ascertain whether the wireless device should commence communications with other devices on the selected channel based upon characteristics of ~~the~~ any messages received on the channel.

3. (original) The program product of claim 2 wherein the logic for maintaining a channel map further stores a power level for each device ID for each entry in the channel map, and wherein the logic for selecting a channel from the channel map selects a channel having either no